18. The policy of supplying forest raw materials on subsidised basis to users other that the rural poor should be reviewed so that raw material is supplied at the prevailing market price, with a view to induce such users to go in for massive afforetation programmes, as also to motivate small and marginal farmers to grow forest ased raw material for industry at remunerative prices.

19. The use of alternative packaging maetrial such as corrugated card boards, plastic bags, etc. instead of wooden packaging, must be explore and encouraged.

Central Schemes for small and marginal farmers of Orissa

2266. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the various schemes introduced by the Central Government to assist the small and marginal farmers;

(b) the number of such schemes launched in Orissa so far; and

(c) the details of the benefit given to small and marginal farmers in that State particularly in tribal districts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The following Central/Centrally Sponsored schemes for assistance to small and marginal farmers for increasing agricultural production have been in operation in various States;

(i) Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for Construction of Shallow Tube Well/Dug Well (STW/DW) in 12 States selected for Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP);

(ii) Establishment of Farmers' Agro-Service Centres for Custom Hiring and Popularisation of Improved Agricultural Implements and Hand tools;

(iii) Encouraging irrigation through use of Sprinklers/Drips Systems Hydrams, Water Turbiners, Man/Animal operated pumps by the Small and Marginal Farmers;

(iv) Lab to Land Programme;

(v) Special Livestock Breeding Programme (SLBP);

(vi) Integrated Rural Develop. ment Programme (I.R.D.P.); and

(vii) Million Wells Scheme (MWS) under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) started with effect from 14-11-1989.

(b) All the above mentioned schemes except Encouraging Irrigation through use of Sprinklers/Drip Sys. tems/Hydrams etc. are in operation in Orissa. However, the Government of Orissa availed Central assistance of Rs. 2.63 lakh under this Scheme during 1982—83 only.

(c) The benefits given to the small and marginal farmers during the last 3 years to the State Government are given below scheme.wise:—

(i) Construction of Shallow Tube Well/Dug Well Programme has been in operation since 1988-89 in 5 districts namely Bolangir, Cuttack, Ganjam, Puri and Sambalpur identified for Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP) covering 148 blocks in Orissa. Subsidy to the extent of 25 per cent, 33.1/3 per cent and 50 per cent is given to small, marginal and tribal farmers respectively. Alternatively, free boring to the extent of Rs. 3000, Rs. 4000 and Rs. 5000 is provided to the small, marginal and tribal farmers respectively. The cost is shared on 50:50 basis between the State and Central Government. Central share amounting to Rs. 1028.24 lakh was released to the State Government during last 3 years.

It may also be mentioned that a Centrally sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers 'for Increasing Agricultural Production (ASMF) was in operation in all the 314 blocks in Orissa from 1983-84 to 1990-91. An annual outlay of Rs. 5.00 lakh per block was envisaged out of which Rs. 3.50 lakh was for Minor Irrigation, Rs. 0.50 lakh for distribution of seed minikits of Oilseeds, Pulses and Coarse-grains and Rs. 1.00 lakh for land development including cost of staff restricted to Rs. 4000. The cost was shared ON 50:50 basis between the State ana Central Government. A sum of Rs. 535.31 lakh was released as central share during the last three years to the State Government.

(ii) Establishment of Farmers Agro-Service Centres for Custom hiring and popularisation of Improved Agricultural Implements and Land Tools.

Under this Programme Central funds to the tune of Rs. 11.00 lakh have been released during 1988-89 to 1990-91 to the State Government.

(iii) Lab-to-Land Programme.

Under this programme 300 farm families comprising of Small and Marginal Farmers and Landless Agricultural labourers have been adopted by the Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneshwar. They are supplied with critical inputs The present 300 adopted families are continuing to benefit from the programme for last three years.

(iv) Special Livestosk Breeding Programme (SLBP) here are two components under the scheme:—

(a) Under rearing of Calves. subsidy of 50 per cent is provided to small/marginal farmer's and 66.2/3 per cent to agricultural labourers and (b) subsidy to the extent of 25 per cent to small/ marginal farmers and 33 1/3 per cent to agricultural labourers is provided for setting up of poultry layer as well as broiler units and sheep and pig production unit. However, 30 per cent of the benenciaries should come from SCs, STs. In both the components, the maximum subsidy per beneficiary is Rs. 3000, whereas for Scheduled Tribes it is Rs. 5000. An amount of Rs. 173.20 lakh has been released to Government of Orissa during 19S8-89 to 1990-91.

(v) Integrated Rural Development Programme (I.R.D P.).

Under this programme families including small and marginal farmers who are under the target group of the programme are eligible for the assistance. The cost of the programme is shared on 50:50 basis between the Centre and State. The cut off line is annual income of Rs. 4800 per family. However, in order to ensure that the poorest of the poor gets the assistance first, it would be ensured that families with an annual income level upto Rs. 3500 are assisted first. During the last three years i.e. 1988-89 to 1990-91 about 5.54 lakh families were assisted under this programme in Orissa.

(vi) Million Wells Scheme (MWS) under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (J.R.Y.)

Under this scheme open irrigation wells are provided free of cost to the poor, small and marginal farmers belonging to SCs/STs categories. Twenty per cent of the resources under JRY have been earmarked for the implementation of MWS. During 1989-90 to 1991-92 (upto September, 1991) about 29,770 wells have been constructed and about 4681.98 hectares are brought under land development works during 1989-90 to 1991-92 upto June, (1991) which is also a permissible item for small & marginal farmers under J, R. Y.

Besides State Governments have been advised to give preference to small and marginal farmers under

various crop oriented Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented to this Ministry.

Commercial Crops in Assam

2267. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to encourage and motivate raising commercial crops in Assam in view of acute unemployment problem; and

(b) whether Government are considering to set up agro-industries with common facility service centre and other Agro-processing activities in Assam to give booster to the local farmers there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN); (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Depressed Scientists of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute

2268. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Scientists working in Indian Agricultural Research Institute and Indian Council of Agricultural Research are in a stage of depression;

(b) whether it is a fact that some scientists in the past committed suicides; if so, the remedial steps Government have taken in the matter;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a Senior scientist has moved the Cen. tral Administrative Tribunal; if so, what are the details in this regard;

(d) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 15th November, 1991 in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any investigation is being made; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA: (a) and (b) Sir, it is not correct to say that the Scientists of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute/Indian Council of Agricultural Research are in a stage of depression. An inquiry into the cases of suspected suicides has revealed that the suicides by scientists has been mainly due to personal reasons. However, the Government has been making constant efforts to create congenial working conditions for the scientific community. Personnel policies of the ICAR are reviewed from time to time by High Level Committees and necessary follow-up action is taken.

(c) to (g) A Principal Scientist of Indian Agricultural) Researdh Institute, New Delhi has filed an application in the Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi against the orders passed by the competent authority imposing the penalty of removal from service on charges of misconduct, misbehaviour and disobedience. The news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 15-11.1991, relates to this application. The penalty of removal from service was imposed after following the procedure laid down in the CCS (CC&A) Rules, 1965 as extended to the ICAR employees.

विभिन्न चयन समितियों/बोर्डों में अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों और अल्पसंख्यकों के प्रतिनिधि

2269. **मौलाना अबैदुल्ला खान आजमी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मंत्रालय द्वारा चयन समितियां/बोर्डों में अनुसूचित जातियों/अनु-